



# Informational Notes for First Responders and Officials

Bulletin #74 – June 6, 2005

SEMA's Homepage: [sema.dps.mo.gov](http://sema.dps.mo.gov)

## **DNR issues information on Low Level Radioactive Shipments**

**By Alan J. Reinkemeyer, Environmental Manager - Section Chief**

**Missouri Department of Natural Resources**

Many of you may be aware that starting next week (June 6 as of now which could change), an estimated 3,500 truck shipments of radioactive waste from the Fernald site (a former Department of Energy uranium processing facility) near Cincinnati, Ohio will be passing through Missouri. The shipments will enter Eastern Missouri via I-270 to I-44 and travel West on I-44 until it leaves Missouri in Newton County and into Oklahoma.

I have included a web link from the Fernald web site, which provides information about the background, history, characterization of waste shipments, description of the shipping containers, waste classification, and Fernald's emergency response telephone number. This should help provide you and your emergency responders information about the shipments and help you answer any questions you receive from the public and/or media.

I am confident that these shipments will pass through Missouri safely and without incident. These are considered low level waste shipments. However, as we all know there is always the possibility of an accident and/or incident. Thus each of our agencies need to plan, prepare and coordinate in the unlikely event. I would advise that you educate your responders about the shipments with this fact sheet found on the web site below.

<http://www.fernald.gov/NewsUpdate/PDFs/4-28-05%20Silos%20and%20Transportation%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>

According to the fact sheet an unbreached container will normally read 75 millirem/hour on the container surface package or 9 millirem/hour at 2 meters away. If a shipment is involved in an accident and readings are significantly above these levels then take protective measures and contact the Fernald emergency response telephone number.

In addition, if one of these shipments are involved in an accident, I ask that emergency response agencies contact the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Emergency Response 24 hour spill line (573-634-2436). We will then take the information and contact the appropriate state agencies (SEMA, Dept of Health & Senior Services, etc) and work with Fernald to get the situation addressed. In addition, we will stand ready to send staff to the incident to assist local responders.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 573-526-3384 or by calling our EER Duty Officers at 573-634-2436.

## **Heat & Lightning Awareness Posted to Homepage**

The Heat and Lightning Awareness campaign (June 19-25) is posted on the SEMA and National Weather Services homepages. The week of June 19 was selected because vacations and outdoor activities are in full swing. The SEMA homepage is: <http://sema.dps.mo.gov/semapage.htm>. The National Weather Service Heat campaign is: <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/lx/prepare.php>

## **Area Coordinator Meetings...**

Area B: June 7, 2005 6:30 –8:30 p.m., at the Mo Stage Highway Patrol Troop B HQ, Macon.  
Area I: June 16, 2005 from 10 a.m. – noon, at the E-911 Center, Steelville.

## **Low Impact Development – Cost Effective Tools For Storm Water Management Set for June 22 Columbia**

The Department of Natural Resources is sponsoring a seminar on “Low Impact Development – Cost Effective Tools for Storm Water Management” on June 22 at the Lenoir Community Center, 3710 Lenoir Street, in Columbia.

Presentations, focusing on Low-Impact Development (LID) techniques, offer city officials and developers a more cost effective way to address storm water management problems through site design. Some of the strategies outlined will focus on developing land in an environmentally responsible manner to create a more hydrological functional landscape.

The Technical Seminar begins at 8:00 a.m. and includes a luncheon. There is a \$15 fee for the seminar. To register on line at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/oac/rmi-regform.htm>

## **Summer Travel Help on MoDOT --FYI, leave early for the airport!**

The summer travel season is upon us. Wherever you go in Missouri this summer, remember to buckle up, and use safe driving skills. Another tool you can use is Missouri Department of Transportation's homepage for a “Smoother, Safer, Sooner Summer”. This link contains a list of major, long-lasting work zones on our interstates, U.S. routes and MO numbered routes between Memorial Day and Labor Day. The link is: [http://www.modot.mo.gov/workzones/documents/2005\\_summer\\_work\\_STATEWIDE.pdf](http://www.modot.mo.gov/workzones/documents/2005_summer_work_STATEWIDE.pdf)

If your travel plans include St. Louis, you should know that two of the five lanes of the eastbound Blanchette Bridge on I-70, which connects St. Charles and St. Louis Counties, are closed. See the St. Louis District web site for more info.

If you'll be near Kansas City, know that the Paseo Bridge on Interstate 29/35 is completely CLOSED for rehabilitation. See <http://www.kcrivercrossings.org/> for alternate route information.

## **Cedar County EMD Swaggerty Dies**

Jimmy Swaggerty died suddenly of a heart attack May 27, 2005, at his home in Caplinger Mills. He served as Emergency Management Director of Cedar County and Fire Chief of Caplinger Mills for many years.

## **Health & Senior Services Deputy Director Ron Cates Retires**

Ron Cates, Deputy Director for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, will retire effective June 20, 2005. Cates was a member of the Deputy's Council to the Missouri Security Council. After the September 11, 2001, terrorists attacks, he served as a member of Governor Holden's Homeland Security Task Force on the Bio-terrorism Committee.

## **Health Advisory Issued on Animal Rabies**

On May 31, 2005, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services issued a Health Advisory on Animal Rabies in Missouri. The entire document can be viewed at [www.dhss.mo.gov/Rabies](http://www.dhss.mo.gov/Rabies). An unusually high number of rabid animals have been detected so far this year in Missouri. As of May 23,

2005, 18 animals have tested positive for rabies, compared to six animals for the same time period last year. (The total number of rabid animals detected in 2004 was 62 percent greater than the average annual total for the preceding ten-year period.)

The 2005 cases include nine bats, eight skunks, and one horse. All rabid skunks so far this year has been found in the southern one-half of the state, with three of them occurring in Howell County. A single rabid bat has been found in St. Louis City and in four other counties (Buchanan, Jackson, Boone, and Iron Counties). In addition, four rabid bats have been found to date in St. Louis County. The rabid horse was detected in Douglas County; five persons are undergoing the rabies prophylaxis as a result of this incident.

### **NIMCAST Update**

The official roll-out of the National Incident Management System Capability Assessment Support Tool (NIMCAST) is going well. Letters were sent to every county, the City of St. Louis, every jurisdiction receiving Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) funds, and every jurisdiction associated with one of the 28 Hazmat/WMD teams (approximately 175 jurisdictions). To date we have received appointment letters from, and granted NIMCAST access to, 128 jurisdictions. This web-based tool is designed to show each jurisdiction their level of compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and to establish a baseline towards full NIMS compliance.

We are aware that it may be possible for jurisdictions to gain access to the NIMCAST without going through SEMA. We have discussed this issue with FEMA/DHS, and they have stated that while it is possible to do that, **ONLY** the data that is entered into the NIMCAST assessment tool through the access granted by SEMA can be included in the Missouri State base-line. **ONLY USE THE NIMCAST ACCESS GRANTED BY SEMA TO COMPLETE THE ASSESSMENT.**

If you have any questions regarding NIMCAST please call Chuck May (573 526-9112) or Diana Terrell (573 526-9234).

### **4.0 magnitude Tennessee Earthquake Felt in SE Missouri**

At 6:35 a.m. June 2, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) reported that a shallow 4.0 magnitude earthquake occurred in Western Tennessee about 10 miles from Dyersburg, TN or about 21 miles east of Caruthersville, MO. Southeast Missouri residents from Cape Girardeau, Mississippi, Scott, Bollinger, New Madrid, Pemiscot and Dunklin Counties reported feeling the earthquake. Local emergency management officials have not reported any damages to the State Emergency Management Agency. The USGS's Web site, "Did You Feel It?" is <http://pasadena.wr.usgs.gov/shake/>.

The New Madrid Seismic Zone fault impacts Northeast Arkansas, Southeast Missouri, Western Tennessee and Southwestern Kentucky. Annually the area experiences 200-250 minor earthquakes. A damaging earthquake would occur in the 6.0 or greater magnitudes.